

Obama. Any objective observer would tell you that it is not fair. Not only is 5 to 1 not fair, but it is also the fact that hearings are simply not being held.

Maybe it is time for a new strategy. Maybe it is time for the Republican leader to live up to his constitutional duty, do his job, and start moving all of these backlogged nominations and directing the Judiciary Committee to hold hearings. The American people need these judges, and they need them now, working to ensure that everyone gets the justice he or she deserves. To allow these qualified nominees to linger longer is simply unjust and unfair. The American people expect more from the Republican leadership and Congress and deserve better. We are going to do everything within our power to bring to the American people's attention that the Republican leadership is not doing a very good job on this and other matters before the Senate.

Mr. President, what is the schedule of the Senate today?

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the majority controlling the first hour and the Democrats controlling the second hour.

The majority whip.

NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, ahead of tomorrow's hearing in the Foreign Relations Committee with Secretaries Kerry, Moniz, and Lew on the President's announced nuclear deal with Iran, I wanted to take a few minutes to address just how far the administration has moved its own goalposts in terms of this purported deal.

Over the last few years the administration has made extensive public statements about what would and would not be acceptable in a final deal with Iran, and today it is clear that the final deal falls short not necessarily of other people's expectations but of their own standards and their own stated expectations.

As Senators consider this proposed deal and whether it should be approved or disapproved, I think it is important to have a good understanding of where the President and his team did not meet their own expectations.

From the early stages of the negotiation, the Obama administration made clear that a key part of any "good deal" would be dismantling Iran's nuclear infrastructure.

Before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Secretary Kerry said back in December of 2013 that "the whole point" of the sanctions regime was to "help Iran dismantle its nuclear program." However, President Obama, in previewing the deal in April of this year, essentially admitted that it would fall short of this standard by saying that "Iran is not going to simply dismantle its program because we demand it to do so." But weren't our negotiators actually demanding that Iran dismantle its nuclear program? That had been our stated policy as the U.S. Government. Wasn't that—in Secretary Kerry's own words—"the whole point"?

As Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel pointed out, instead of dismantling the nuclear infrastructure of Iran, the No. 1 state sponsor of international terrorism and threat to the safety and stability of the Middle East, this deal legitimizes and paves the way for their nuclear program and its enrichment capability. In fact, by the time this deal expires, the rogue regime in Tehran will have an industrial-sized nuclear program.

For the duration of the agreement, Iran will be able to conduct research and development on several types of advanced centrifuges. In year 8, Iran can resume testing its most advanced centrifuges, and in year 9 it can start manufacturing more of them. That is hardly dismantlement. That is the opposite of dismantlement.

I also want to address another important point that has been made concerning inspections because, as we know, Iran will cheat. So inspections take on an especially important role in enforcing any agreement that is made. In particular, I want to address this issue of anytime, anywhere inspections.

In April, President Obama announced that a good deal had been struck between world powers and Iran and noted that the deal would "prevent it from obtaining a nuclear weapon." This is, of course, now known as the "framework deal"—a precursor to what was announced last week.

A few weeks after this announcement, Secretary Ernest Moniz, the Energy Secretary, who was at the table with Secretary Kerry in negotiating this deal, said: "We expect to have anywhere, anytime access." He said that on April 20, 2015. This is a particularly clear statement from someone intimately familiar with the negotiation process, and, of course, it was well received because this is, at a minimum, what needs to be done in order to keep Iran from cheating. But by the weekend, the administration was singing a different tune.

This is what Secretary Kerry said when he began to backtrack from what was said by Secretary Moniz on April 20. He said that "anywhere, anytime" inspections was "a term that honestly I never heard in the four years that we were negotiating. It was not on the

table." I don't know whether Secretary Moniz and Secretary Kerry actually talked to each other or not. They spent an awful lot of time together in Vienna and supposedly would be on the same page. But for Secretary Kerry to say this really incredible statement, that he never heard of this idea, and that this was not on the table is simply incredible.

So, of course, my question is: Were anywhere, anytime inspections ever on the table? And if not, why did the administration tell us they were—including the Secretary of Energy. And if they were not on the table, why is this deal actually a good deal? Why can we have any sense of conviction or belief that Iran won't cheat, especially given this Rube Goldberg sort of contraption involving notice and this bureaucratic process that will basically lead up to a 24-day delay between when inspections are requested and before inspections can actually be done? We know from our experience with Saddam Hussein in Iraq that it is easy to move things around and avoid the inspectors of the IAEA.

This deal today provides that inspectors will have "managed access"—whatever that means—to suspect sites, but, as I said, it allows up to 24 days for Iran to stall inspectors before it actually grants them access, if they ever do. This is another way of saying that Iran will be able to cheat with near impunity.

The administration has also led us astray on a third item, and that is Iran's ballistic missile capability. This is the vehicle by which Iran could launch a nuclear weapon to hit people in the region or even further.

In February of last year, the chief U.S. negotiator, Wendy Sherman, testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that while Iran had "not shut down all of their production of any ballistic missile," the issue was "indeed, going to be part of something that has to be addressed as part of the comprehensive agreement."

Ballistic missiles, as we know, can be used to deliver a nuclear weapon, and now under the current deal, the arms embargo in Iran will be completely lifted in just 8 years' time, including on ballistic missiles. I don't think the administration simply changed their minds and decided that this wasn't an important issue. I think they simply caved on yet another important item to our national security and that of our allies.

Earlier this month, for example, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Martin Dempsey, testified that "under no circumstances should [the United States] relieve pressure on Iran relative to ballistic missile capabilities and arms trafficking." So with this purported deal, the administration has apparently caved once again on something that the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who is the No. 1 military adviser to the President of the United States, said should be off the